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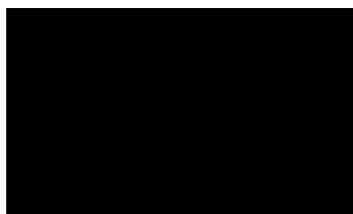
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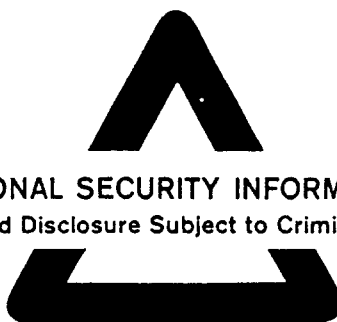
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DCI INTERAGENCY BALKAN TASK FORCE
Daily Crisis Update 124
1200 EDT 29 December 1992

Summary

- HUMANITARIAN SITUATION: The onset of winter is clearly worsening the humanitarian situation in Sarajevo, and local authorities have reported the first deaths from exposure. (page 2)
 - SANCTIONS: Russia is boosting natural gas deliveries to Sarajevo, although Serbia and Bosnian Serbs are likely to divert much of the increase to their own uses. (page 2)
 - POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS: Prime Minister Panic lost a no-confidence motion in both houses of the Federal Assembly, but will stay on until the new Assembly is seated next month. (page 3)
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This update was prepared by analysts in the DCI Interagency Balkan Task force.

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Humanitarian Situation

Despite the sharp increase in deliveries of relief supplies to Sarajevo over the past several days, the overall picture remains grim.

- Snow covered Sarajevo yesterday, and local authorities registered the first deaths from exposure.
- The city's electrical, water, and heating systems continue to be out of operation. [REDACTED]

In another highly successful day of operations, airlift deliveries to Sarajevo on 28 December totalled 190 metric tons of relief supplies via 19 flights-- six US, three British, three Canadian, three French, and four German. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

- Two-thirds of the supplies delivered consisted of food.
- Winterization materials, such as plastic sheeting, composed the bulk of the balance.
- Several tons of road salt and medical supplies were also delivered. [REDACTED]

A UNHCR spokesman in Geneva denied reports that up to 70 percent of the food reaching Sarajevo via the relief operation is being diverted.

- The spokesman cited the high cost of food on the local black market as evidence that such a large volume of diversion is not occurring.
- Nevertheless, measures aimed at reducing the opportunity for diversion are being taken by the UNHCR, including increasing the use of UNPROFOR escorts and centralizing Sarajevo's three distribution centers into one. [REDACTED]

Status of Sanctions

More Russian Natural Gas For Bosnia

Bosnia signed an agreement with Russia in mid-December to purchase 1.8 million cubic meters of natural gas per day, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] SC 04374/92

- Hungary will reportedly allow all of the natural gas to pass through its territory into the former Yugoslavia, even though Serbia and Bosnian Serbs are likely to divert much of the gas for their own use.
- Bosnian officials believe that the increased flow of gas will enable more to reach Sarajevo; Sarajevo was reportedly receiving more natural gas as of 21 December.

Serbian Oil Supplies Sufficient For Winter

Belgrade announced yesterday that Serbia has enough oil to meet its heating and transportation needs for the winter months, according to press reports. Previous intelligence reporting--including imagery--also indicates a marked increase in the availability of petroleum supplies since October.

Political Developments

Clock Runs Out For Panic

Both houses of the Federal Assembly passed a vote of no-confidence against "Yugoslav" Prime Minister Panic today, according to press reports.

- Serbian ultra-nationalist leader Seselj tabled the motion and charged Panic with betraying his country.
- The Montenegrins were not inclined to go out on a limb for Panic this time in the wake of his election loss to Serbian President Milosevic--they blocked a previous no-confidence vote.
- Panic will stay on as a caretaker until the newly-elected Assembly meets next month and selects a replacement.

Military Developments

Bosnian Serbs Ordered to Prepare for No-fly Enforcement

Bosnian Serb President Karadzic yesterday ordered Major General Ninkovic, Commander of the Bosnian Serb Air Force, to hide his aircraft in anticipation of a possible airstrike by UN forces,

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[REDACTED] Karadzic reportedly believes that a UN Security Council resolution enforcing the flight ban is imminent, and that Washington advocates striking ground targets.

[REDACTED]

Bosnian Muslims Possibly Preparing Offensive in Sarajevo

Fighting intensified in Sarajevo yesterday and this morning. UN officials believe Muslim forces have brought in additional troops and will try to break the Serb siege of the city, according to press reports.

- Bosnian Serb and Muslim forces clashed around the Sarajevo suburbs of Vogosca and Hrasno Hill. Belgrade press reports that Bosnian Serb forces overran the Muslim stronghold of Bioca yesterday.
- Meanwhile, Bosnian Serb and Croat/Muslim forces continued to fight for control of the roads around Gradacac, Tuzla, Brcko, and Maglaj in northeast Bosnia, according to press reports. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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